

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TRUENORTH PERFORMS LET THE STABLE STILL ASTONISH ***Event on Saturday, December 21 at 7:30 pm at Avon Lake Presbyterian Church***

Avon Lake, OH – Avon Lake Presbyterian Church will be hosting the **TrueNorth Christmas Concert, *Let the Stable Still Astonish***, on Saturday, December 21st, 7:30 p.m. Avon Lake Presbyterian is located at 32340 Electric Blvd, just west of Jaycox on the north side of the street. This is a non-ticketed performance, a love offering will be taken to help defray concert expenses.

Come experience glorious Christmas music and celebrate the season with the TrueNorth Chorale and Chamber Orchestra! Under the direction of Founder and Artistic Director Rick Fortney, with equity actors Maryann Nagel Violand and Greg Violand serving as narrators, experience beautiful Christmas Carols arranged by Dan Forrest and Mack Wilberg; Carols such as ***Away in a Manger, In the Bleak Midwinter, Joy to the World, O Come All Ye Faithful, Silent Night, The First Noel***, and others. The String section of the Chamber Orchestra will be featured playing Arcangelo Corelli's ***Christmas Concerto - Concerto grosso in G minor, Op. 6, No. 8***, with solo trio including violinists Kathryn Bates and Jim Parry, and cellist Jordan Alegant. The Chamber Orchestra will be performing Randol Alan Bass' ***The Night Before Christmas*** with Greg Violand serving as our storyteller / narrator. Soprano Janine Porter, flutist Cathy Graves and harpist Susan Wrbanek will perform Kevin Oldham's arrangement of ***Silent Night***, a sensitive, almost restrained ethereal rendering with simplicity poignant clarity. ***Silent Night*** was originally composed on Christmas Eve in 1818 by an obscure Austrian church organist, Franz Xaver Gruber (1787-1863). The chorale and chamber orchestra will also be performing another setting of ***Silent Night***, arranged by Dan Forrest, it begins with the smallest and simplest of musical ideas "Silent Night... all is calm", then gradually builds into an overwhelming statement of the profoundest of truths: "Christ, the Savior, is born."

Another special feature will be Dan Forrest's ***Let the Stable Still Astonish***, which is also the title of this year's concert, featuring soprano Misty Sinclair, cellist Joan Wojcicki Fortney, and actress Maryann Nagel Violand. In addition, calligrapher artist Timothy Botts has been commissioned to create an art piece inspired by this text and music which will be presented/premiered at the concert. "Let the stable still astonish" reminds us to find wonder in the unexpected and ordinary aspects of life, not just the grand or spectacular. The "stable" represents not just the physical place in Bethlehem, but also the humble, sometimes overlooked parts of our lives or hearts where God can be present. The word "astonish" implies a deep sense of awe and amazement. The piece

has spoken to us throughout our preparation in rehearsal and we look forward to sharing it at the Concert.

The TrueNorth Chorale sing a wide range of literature ranging from the masters to the contemporary, sacred and secular, musical theatre and patriotic. The TrueNorth Chamber Orchestra collaborates with the TrueNorth Chorale and other soloists with multiple concerts throughout the year. The Chamber Orchestra presents a wide array of programs primarily focused on classical music, but many performances each year offer very unique programming. The Chorale and Chamber Orchestra have produced and hosted concerts to raise awareness and funds for various causes throughout the years, such as cancer awareness, hunger, and various national crisis events honoring our fallen heroes and supporting those who suffer.

Come join TrueNorth, Saturday, December 21st, Let the Stabel still Astonish – TrueNorth's Christmas Concert, as we celebrate the Christmas season through glorious music.



TrueNorth is a multidisciplinary arts organization committed to building and strengthening individuals and communities through the performing, visual and the literary arts. Our vision is two-fold: To educate, equip, and empower individuals so they can embrace and succeed in the creative arts; and to envision and encourage communities where creative arts and art appreciation flourish. To learn more visit www.TNCArts.org

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